> he had gone out of his way to favor the foregone conclusion of bringing you, and through you, Homeopathy, into public contempt, and, what is a far more serious impropriety, actually prejudged the case that he was sitting to investigate. (19)

Signs of Virginity

It seems to have been an important part of Dr. Campbell's strategy to discredit the most damning physical evidence in advance. Thanks to the above preliminaries, Dr. Hallowell's colleagues on the jury at the Coroner's Inquest have now become "conspirators," the jury a "combination to injure [Dr. Campbell's] professional or private character" (19). Mary herself has conveniently dropped entirely out of the picture.

Dr. Campbell, playing innocent again, refuses to believe that "members of a learned profession would ... unjustly and insidiously assail a member of that profession" (19). "Lawyer Blank" corrects him. He and the rest no longer belong to the same profession; as a former prominent member of the conventional school, he is regarded as a traitor:

> They think that you are fair game, and that anything they can do to injure you and your school is quite lawful. The mere mention of "Homeopathy" seems to act upon them in the same way that a red flag does upon a bull, it puts them in a frenzy of rage at once. (19)

The idea of conspiracy is corroborated by the fact that Dr. Workman and his colleagues examined "the external sexual parts of the deceased" without the knowledge of Dr. Campbell. This autopsy now becomes the "`caucus' meeting of the conspirators" (20). This subsequently becomes "that most iniquitous `caucus' meeting of these conspirators against homeopathy" (24).

Dr. Campbell declares himself to be at a loss to account for the disappearance of the "signs of virginity," which were present when he examined the living patient. His reasons for concern is not the implications for himself and his son, but entirely the "good name of a modest and estimable young woman, whom I considered to be wrongfully accused of looseness of conduct"